

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/467,551

Examiner

Nga B. Nguyen

Applicant(s)

LIU ET AL.

Art Unit

3628

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the Amendment filed on May 5, 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 21-53.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)           |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                              |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material          | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance  |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____   |

### DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is the answer to the Amendment filed on May 15, 2005, which paper has been placed of record in the file.
2. Claims 21-53 are pending in this application.

### ***Allowable Subject Matter/Reasons for Allowance***

3. Claims **21, 31, 32, 39, 43, 46 and 49** are allowed over the prior arts cited records.

The closets prior arts are:

1) Freese (US 5,291,543) discloses a cellular telephone call administration system processes detailed call records from a cellular switch as the calls are processed. This arrangement expedites automatic, electronic distribution of detailed call records to resellers and service provider billing facilities and to the roam billing clearing house. The call administration system, without operator intervention, provides a metered billing class of service to customers as an aid to controlling their cellular communication expenses; and provides for registration of roam sets for service on a cellular switch without need for a billing agreement with the set's home carrier.

2) Bittinger (US 5,867,661) discloses the user can access the Internet using laptops, notebooks, Personal Digital Assistants (PDAs) over a wireless communication system, e.g. a cellular communication system.

3) Griffin (US 5,893,077) discloses a method and system for settling charges for Internet connection services comprises a filter, coupled to the raw records database, to

Art Unit: 3628

generate filtered accounting records by removing erroneous data from the raw accounting records.

Therefore, it is clear from the description of Freese, Bittinger, and Griffin above, that the prior arts do not considered the possibility of: the settlement server receiving, from the local Internet service provider over the Internet, accounting records of a user's Internet connection service usage of a network of the local Internet service provider, the local Internet service provider operated independently from the home Internet service provider of the user, the user not having an accounting with the local Internet service provider but having an account with the home Internet service provider and connecting to the Internet via the local Internet service provider, as included in claims 21, 31, 32, 39, 43, 46 and 49.

4. Claims (22-30), (33-35), (36-38), (40-42), (44, 45, 52), (47,48, 53) and (50, 51), are allowed because they are dependent claims of the allowable independents 21, 31, 32, 39, 43, 46, and 49 above, in that order.

### **Conclusion**

5. Claims 21-53 are allowable.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to examiner Nga B. Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-6796. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 9:00AM-6:00PM.

Art Unit: 3628

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hyung S. Sough can be reached on (571) 272-6799.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 306-1113.

7. Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

C/o Technology Center 3600

Washington, DC 20231

Or faxed to:

(703) 872-9306 (for formal communication intended for entry),

or

(571) 273-0325 (for informal or draft communication, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT").

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Knox Building, 501 Dulany Street, Alexandria, VA, First Floor (Receptionist).



NGA NGUYEN  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

July 24, 2006